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(54) **Improvements in or relating to a can of paint**

(57) A can of paint 11 holds paint of a particular colour, known as the main colour, closed by a lid 10 having a picture thereon, the picture having a first area 20 coloured with the main colour and at least two other areas 21 to 24 coloured with second and third colours respectively. The can may be provided with a transparent portion in the side wall of the can through which the colour of the paint can be seen. The picture may be applied to the lid during manufacture or may be applied to a disc shaped card which may be applied to the lid with adhesive.

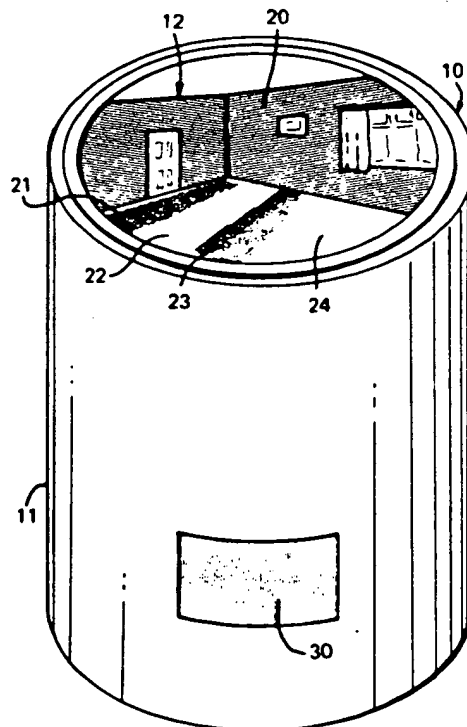


FIG 1

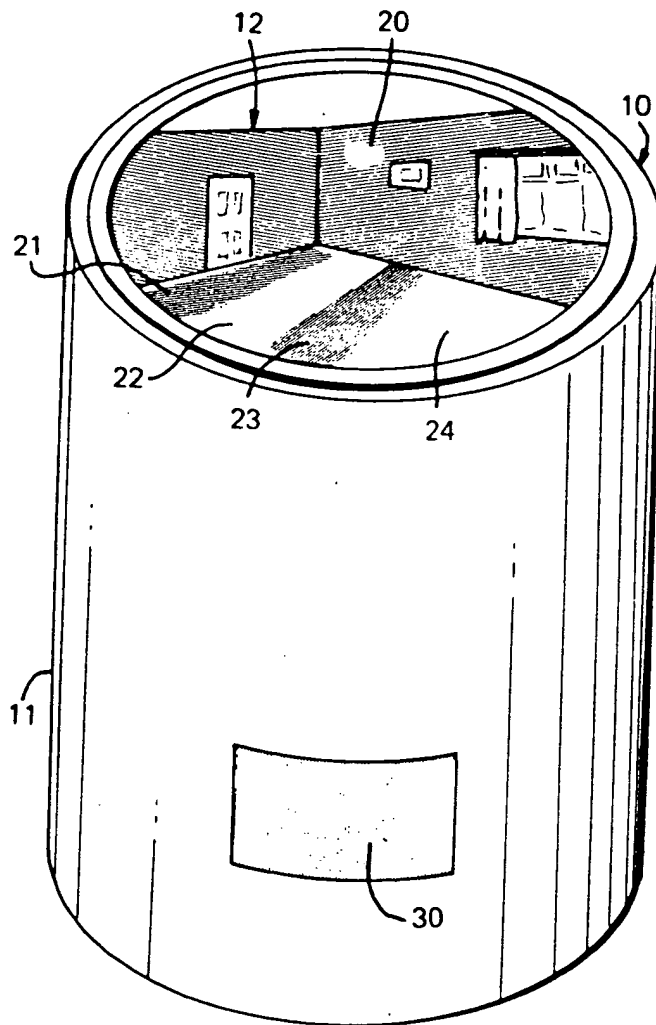


FIG.1

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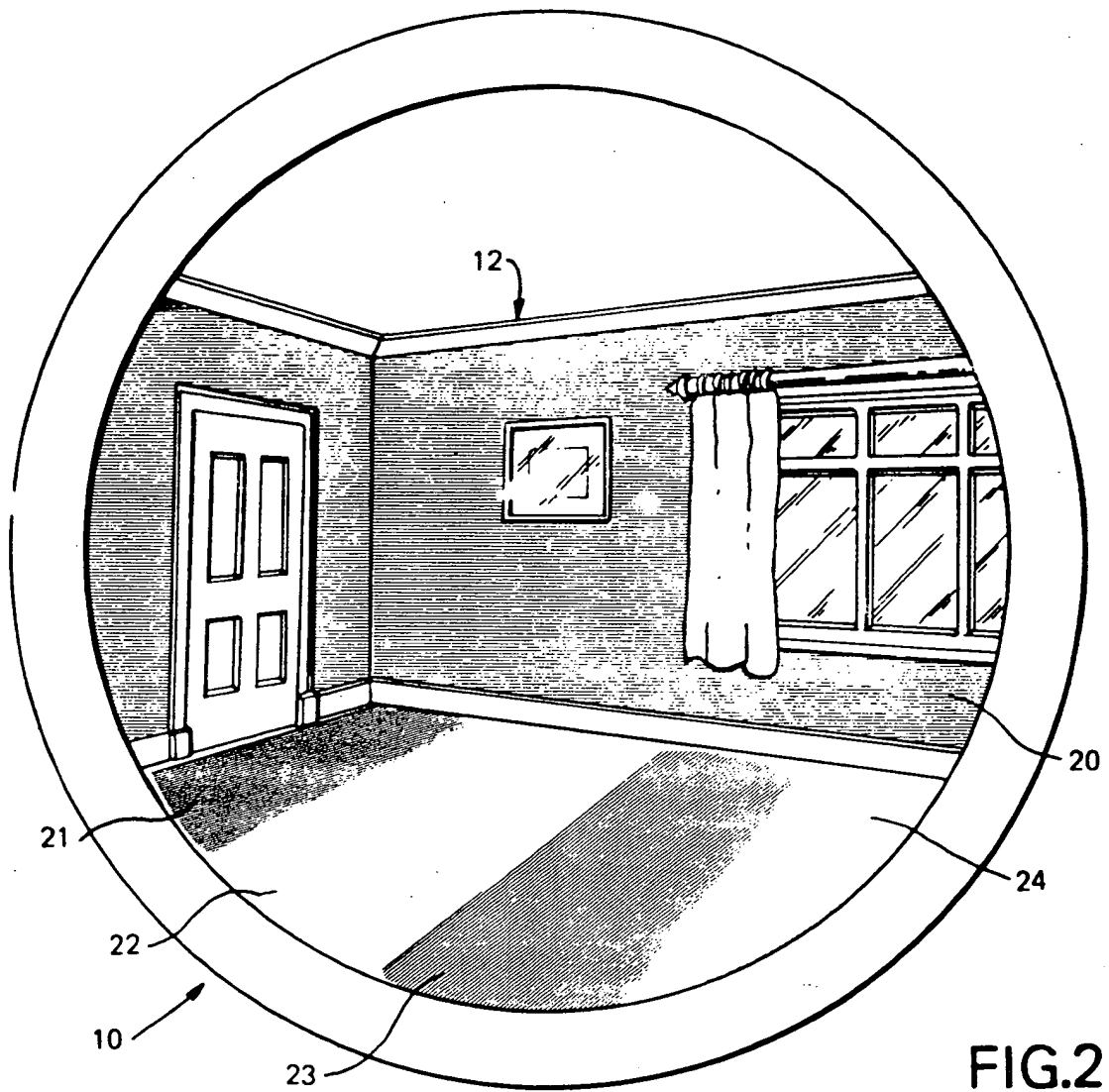
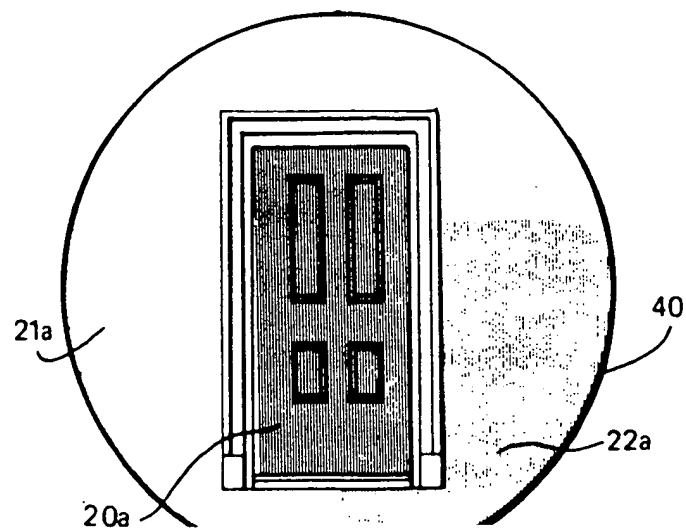


FIG. 2



IMPROVEMENTS IN OR RELATING TO A CAN OF PAINT

The invention relates to a can of paint.

5 Paint is sold in a variety of shades and colours. A user, having selected a particular or main colour for use in the decorating task in hand usually wishes to obtain matching or complimentary colours to the main colour. The finding of appropriate matching colours to a main colour can sometimes be a difficult and time consuming task. This task can be made even more difficult when the user is buying paint from a
10 supermarket type store as distinct from a shop which specialises in selling paint.

It is an object of the present invention to make it easier for a user of the main colour to select matching or complementary colours.

15 The invention, therefore, provides a can of paint holding paint of a particular colour, known as the main colour, closed by a lid having a picture thereon, the picture having a first area coloured with the main colour and at least two other areas coloured with second
20 and third colours respectively.

The invention further provides a range of cans of paint, comprising a plurality of cans of paint of

which each can holds paint of a different colour, known as the main colour and is closed by a lid having a picture thereon, the picture having a first area coloured with the main colour and at least two other areas coloured with second and third colours respectively which constitute the mains colours of other cans of the plurality.

The invention will be understood in greater detail from the following description of a preferred embodiment thereof given by way of example only and with reference to the accompanying drawings in which:-

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a can of paint according to the invention;

Figure 2 is a plan view of the can shown in Figure 1; and

Figure 3 is a plan view of a detail of an alternative lid to that shown in Figure 2 of the drawings.

Referring now to the drawings, there is shown a lid 10 suitable for closing and sealing a can of paint 11. Part of the exposed surface of the lid has a picture 12 depicted thereon. The picture can show any desired scene which, in Figure 2 of the drawings, represents the interior of a room. There is a main area 20 delineated thereon and four other areas 21, 22, 23 and 24 delineated which constitute, in the main, the picture 12.

The colour of paint (referred to herein as the main colour) in the can is represented by a label 30 or,

in some instances, by a transparent portion in the side wall of the can 11 through which can be seen the paint in the can 11.

5 Accordingly, the main area 20 of the picture will have the same colour on it as that of the label 30 or the colour of the paint in the can 11, i.e. the main colour.

10 The other areas 21-24 will bear subsidiary colours which are matching or complementary to the colour of the main area 20, i.e. they are recommended by the manufacturer for use with same colour scheme as the main colour.

15 The picture 12 and colour of the main area 20 and the other areas 21-24 may be applied directly to the lid 10 during manufacture. However, a less costly method would be to apply the picture 12 and the colouring thereof by printing on to a disc shaped card 40 which could then be applied to a cover using adhesives to form the lid 10 according to the invention.

20 In Figure 3 of the drawings, there is shown a disc shaped card 40 having a different picture thereon, for use, for example, in conjunction with a can of gloss paint for use on doors. In this example, the main area 20a shows a picture of a door which is coloured so as to
25 reflect the colour of the paint in a can. The other areas 21a, 22a are coloured with matching or complementary colours to that shown in the main area 20a.

The lid 10 according to the invention, provides the buyer/user of the paint with a simple and easy to

use method of selecting matching or complementary colours to that of the main colour.

5 It is to be understood that the can of paint described is but one of a range provided by the manufacturer, and that each of the subsidiary colours in the areas 21 to 24 (in the case of Figure 2) or in the areas 21a and 22a (in the case of Figure 3) constitutes the main colour of another can of paint in the range.

10 The invention is not limited by or to the specific embodiments described which can undergo considerable variation without departing from the scope of the invention.

CLAIMS:

1. A can of paint holding paint of a particular colour, known as the main colour, closed by a lid having a picture thereon, the picture having a first area coloured with the main colour and at least two other areas coloured with second and third colours respectively.
2. A range of cans of paint, comprising a plurality of cans of paint of which each can holds paint of a different colour, known as the main colour, and is closed by a lid having a picture thereon, the picture having a first area coloured with the main colour and at least two other areas coloured with second and third colours respectively which constitute the main colours of other cans of the plurality.
3. A can of paint substantially as described with reference to Figure 1 and 2 or to Figures 1 and 3 of the accompanying drawings.